

**Remarks****The Amendments**

The amendments introduce no new matter and respond to points raised in the Advisory Action. The amendments were not presented earlier because Applicants believed their previous response put the claims in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 5, 2004

By: Lisa M. Hemmendinger  
Lisa M. Hemmendinger  
Registration No. 42,653

Banner & Witcoff, Ltd.  
1001 G Street, N.W., Eleventh Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597  
(202) 824-3000